Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

1   1. (Currently Amended) A dynamic planning method comprising:

2   generating a project list with a plurality of activities;

3   selecting two or more activities from a plurality of activities within a project plan;

4   generating a time precedence relationship between the selected activities;

5   structuring the ~~one~~ two or more activities, each with ~~an~~ respective activity pre-structured

6   process model;

7   structuring the time precedence relationships with an activity relationship pre-structured

8   model;

9   associating an activity characteristics value with at least one of the activity pre-structured

10 process ~~model~~models;

11   associating an activity relationship value with the activity relationship pre-structured

12 model to provide a dynamic planning method (DPM) project planning model; and

13   dynamically adjusting the DPM project planning model to provide a DPM project plan.

1   2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein associating an activity characteristics

2   value with at least one of the activity pre-structured process ~~model~~models comprises:

3   providing a user-defined activity reliability value for ~~each~~ at least one of the ~~one~~ two or

4   more activities; and

5   associating the activity reliability value with the activity relationship pre-structured

6   model.

1   3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein associating an activity characteristics

2   value with at least one of the activity pre-structured process ~~model~~models comprises:
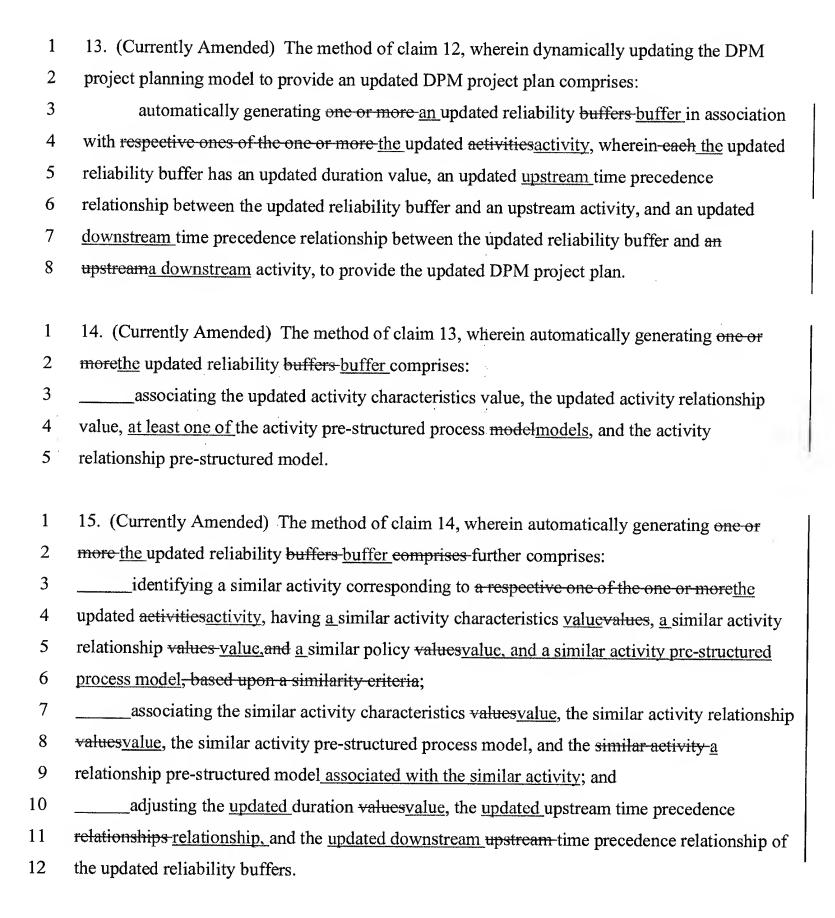
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3   providing a user a user-defined production type value for ~~each~~ at least one of the ~~one~~ two

4   or more activities;

5   _____associating the production type value with at least one of the activity pre-structured

6   process ~~model~~models.

1   4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein associating an activity relationship

2   value with the activity relationship pre-structured model comprises:

3   providing a user-defined time precedence relationship between the ~~one~~ two or more

4   activities; and

5   _____associating the time precedence relationship with the activity relationship pre-structured

6   model.

1   5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein associating an activity relationship

2   value with the activity relationship pre-structured model comprises:

3   _____providing a user-defined sensitivity value for the time precedence relationship; and

4   _____associating the sensitivity value with the activity relationship pre-structured model.

1   6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

2   associating a policy value with at least one of the activity pre-structured process

3   ~~model~~models.

1   7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein associating the ~~first~~ policy value with

2   at least one of the activity [ ]pre-structured process ~~model~~ models comprises:

3   providing the ~~first~~ policy value as a user-defined ~~first~~ policy value; and

4   associating the ~~first~~ policy value with at least one of the activity pre-structured process

5   ~~model~~models.

1   8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein dynamically adjusting the DPM

2   project planning model to provide a DPM project plan comprises:

3   automatically generating ~~one or more~~a reliability ~~buffers~~buffer in association with

4   ~~respective ones of the one~~the two or more activities~~to~~, wherein ~~each~~thereliability buffer has a

5   duration value, an upstream time precedence relationship between the reliability buffer and an

6   upstream activity, and a downstream time precedence relationship between the reliability buffer a

7   downstream activity, to provide the DPM project plan.

1   9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the downstream time precedence relationship is

2   finish to start with no lag or lead.

1   10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the automatically generating ~~one or~~

2   ~~more~~the reliability ~~buffers~~buffer comprises:

3   associating the activity characteristics value, the activity relationship value, at least one of

4   the activity pre-structured process ~~model~~models, and with the activity relationship pre-structured

5   model.

1   11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the automatically generating ~~one or~~

2   ~~more~~the reliability ~~buffers~~buffer further comprises:

3   associating ~~the~~a policy value with at least one of the activity pre-structured process

4   ~~model~~models, and with the activity relationship pre-structured model.

1   12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

2   selecting ~~one or more~~an updated ~~activities~~activity;

3   providing at least one of updated activity characteristics ~~data~~value, updated activity

4   relationship ~~data~~value, ~~or~~and updated policy ~~data~~value associated with the updated

5   ~~activities~~activity, to provide an updated DPM project planning model; and

6   dynamically updating the DPM project planning model to provide an updated DPM

7   project plan.

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1   13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein dynamically updating the DPM

2   project planning model to provide an updated DPM project plan comprises:

3   automatically generating ~~one or more~~ an updated reliability ~~buffers~~ buffer in association

4   with ~~respective ones of the one or more~~ the updated ~~activities~~ activity, wherein ~~each~~ the updated

5   reliability buffer has an updated duration value, an updated upstream time precedence

6   relationship between the updated reliability buffer and an upstream activity, and an updated

7   downstream time precedence relationship between the updated reliability buffer and ~~an~~

8   ~~upstream~~ a downstream activity, to provide the updated DPM project plan.

1   14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein automatically generating ~~one or~~

2   ~~more~~ the updated reliability ~~buffers~~ buffer comprises:

3   associating the updated activity characteristics value, the updated activity relationship

4   value, at least one of the activity pre-structured process ~~model~~ models, and the activity

5   relationship pre-structured model.

1   15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein automatically generating ~~one or~~

2   ~~more~~ the updated reliability ~~buffers~~ buffer ~~comprises~~ further comprises:

3   identifying a similar activity corresponding to ~~a respective one of the one or more~~ the

4   updated ~~activities~~ activity, having a similar activity characteristics ~~value~~ values, a similar activity

5   relationship ~~values~~ value, and a similar policy ~~values~~ value, and a similar activity pre-structured

6   process model, ~~based upon a similarity criteria~~;

7   associating the similar activity characteristics ~~values~~ value, the similar activity relationship

8   ~~values~~ value, the similar activity pre-structured process model, and the ~~similar activity~~ a

9   relationship pre-structured model associated with the similar activity; and

10   adjusting the updated duration ~~values~~ value, the updated upstream time precedence

11   ~~relationships~~ relationship, and the updated downstream ~~upstream~~ time precedence relationship of

12   the updated reliability buffers.

1   16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the ~~similarity criteria is~~

2   ~~equality~~similar activity has the same activity characteristics values, the same activity relationship

3   values, and the same policy values as the updated activity.

1   17. (Original) A dynamic planning apparatus comprising:

2   a dynamic planning method (DPM) data processor that provides activity data that is a

3   combination of policy data, activity characteristics data, and activity relationship data; and

4   a DPM processor coupled to the DPM data processor to process the activity data to

5   provide a DPM project plan.

1   18. (Original) The dynamic planning apparatus of claim 17, wherein the DPM processor also

2   provides one or more DPM performance profiles.

1   19. (Original) The dynamic planning apparatus of claim 17, wherein the DPM data processor

2   includes:

3   a DPM policy data processor that provides the policy data; and

4   a DPM activity data processor, that provides the activity characteristics data and the

5   activity relationship data.

1   20. (Original) The dynamic planning apparatus of claim 19, wherein the DPM activity data

2   processor includes:

3   a DPM activity characteristics graphical user interface (GUI) that provides the activity

4   characteristics data; and

5   a DPM activity relationship GUI that provides the activity relationship data.

1   21. (Original) The dynamic planning apparatus of claim 20, wherein the DPM activity data

2   processor includes a dependency structure matrix GUI for entry of the activity characteristics

3   data and the activity relationship data.

1   22. (Original) The dynamic planning apparatus of claim 21, further comprising:

2   one or more conventional project planning models that provide conventional project plan

3   data; and

4   a data transfer processor coupled to the one or more conventional project planning models

5   and further coupled to the DPM data processor to receive the conventional project plan data

6   from the one or more conventional project planning models and to provide formatted data to the

7   DPM data processor.